

Message Text

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TAGS: PINT, PFOR, JA, KS, CH

SUBJ: PM MIKI'S AUGUST 9 LOS ANGELES PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: TOKYO

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUMMARY. AT AUGUST 9 LOS ANGELES PRESS CONFERENCE, PRIMIN MIKI SAID AGAIN HE WAS VERY SATISFIED WITH RESULTS OF HIS TEN-DAY U.S. VISIT. IN ADDITION, HE HINTED U.S. MIGHT ATTEND FIVE NATION ECONOMIC SUMMIT IF PROPER PREPARATIONS MADE, FORESAW POSSIBLE DELAYS WITH SOUTH KOREAN MINISTERIAL MEETING, THOUGHT IT NATURAL THAT NPT WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT SEPTEMBER DIET SESSION AND ANSWERED A NUMBER OF OTHER QUESTIONS RELATING TO DOMESTIC POLITICS. END SUMMARY.

1. AT AUGUST 9 (AUGUST 10 JAPAN TIME) PRESS CONFERENCE HELD IN LOS ANGELES SHORTLY BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE FOR JAPAN, PRIMIN MIKI SAID ONCE AGAIN THAT HE WAS VERY SATISFIED WITH RESULTS OF HIS TEN-DAY U.S. VISIT. (ALTHOUGH MIKI PERSONALLY DID NOT SPELL OUT WHAT HE MEANT BY THIS, MEMBERS
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OF HIS STAFF ARE QUOTED AS SAYING THAT HIS BIGGEST ACCOM-

PLISHMENT WAS BEGINNING A RELATIONSHIP OF MUTUAL TRUST WITH THE PRESIDENT. THEY ALSO NOTED HIS WASHINGTON AND NEW YORK SPEECHES WERE BETTER RECEIVED THAN HAD BEEN EXPECTED.) MIKI CHALKED UP HIS WARM U.S. RECEPTION TO U.S. APPRECIATION OF JAPAN IN THE POST-VIETNAM ERA, RATHER THAN TO ANY SPECIAL U.S. REGARD FOR HIM AS AN INDIVIDUAL. IN PASSING, HE HINTED THAT THE U.S. WOULD PARTICIPATE IN THE PROPOSED FIVE NATION ECONOMIC SUMMIT IF "HIGH LEVEL" PREPARATORY MEETINGS WERE HELD BEFOREHAND.

2. MIKI DENIED THERE WAS ANY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HIS THINKING AND THAT OF FOREIGN MINISTER MIYAZAWA ON THE KOREAN SITUATION. HE SUGGESTED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE COULD BE DELAYS BEFORE A GOJ-ROK MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE COULD BE SCHEDULED BECAUSE OF THE EXPECTED SEPTEMBER DIET SESSION.

3. MIKI SAID HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE NATURAL FOR THE LOWER HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE TO RENEW DISCUSSION OF NPT RATIFICATION DURING THE SEPTEMBER DIET SESSION. ALTHOUGH THERE IS CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR A TREATY TO BE RATIFIED FOLLOWING LOWER HOUSE PASSAGE AND THIRTY DAYS OF UPPER HOUSE INACTION, MIKI SAID HE WISHED TO HAVE THE UPPER HOUSE DISCUSS AND PASS THE NPT RATIFICATION BILL AS WELL. THERE HAD BEEN NO U.S. PRESSURE CONCERNING THE NPT, MIKI SAID: IN FACT, THE SUBJECT HAD NOT BEEN RAISED BY U.S. LEADERS.

4. ON THE SINO-JAPANESE PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP TREATY, MIKI SAYS HE STILL HOPES TO HAVE EARLY AGREEMENT, BUT SAID IT WAS NOT YET TIME TO SEND A SPECIAL ENVOY TO PEKING.

5. ON DOMESTIC POLITICAL ISSUES, MIKI EMPHATICALLY RULED OUT LOWER HOUSE DISSOLUTION DURING 1975. (IT WAS THE FIRST TIME, THE PRESS NOTED, THAT HE HAD OMITTED SOME QUALIFYING STATEMENT SUCH AS "FOR THE PRESENT, I HAVE NO INTENTION...") HE PRONOUNCED HIMSELF SATISFIED WITH THE PRESENT CABINET, RULING OUT A NEAR-TERM SHUFFLE. HE EXPECTED THE UPCOMING DIET SESSION TO BE "REASONABLY LONG," BUT DID NOT SPECIFY PRECISELY WHEN IT WOULD BEGIN. HE ALSO INDICATED HE MIGHT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEET WITH OPPOSITION PARTY CHIEFS ON HIS RETURN HOME.

6. COMMENT. ALTHOUGH THE JAPANESE MEDIA HAD CLEARLY TUNED OUT, PRIME MINISTER MIKI PROVED THE OLD ADAGE THAT A PM MAKES NEWS WHENEVER HE CHOOSES TO. WHAT COMES THROUGH MOST CLEARLY IN THE COVERAGE IS MIKI'S REAL SATISFACTION WITH THE RESULTS OF HIS U.S. VISIT. THIS THEME WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE REPEATED AGAIN AT A TOKYO PRESS

CONFERENCE SCHEDULED FOR THE AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 12.
SHOESMITH

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